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25X1 25X1

EXH899

PP RUEPIAGHDE'RUEHCR 9264 10/1400Z

P 101331Z ZEA

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE ATTN MR BUNDY

RUEKDA/DOD

RUEPIA/CIA

P 101237Z ZEA

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4135

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State Department review completed

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IN 83788 PAGE 2003

ER GREENFIELD AND MOORE FROM ZORTHIAN

A REGULAR FOREIGN PRESS BRIEFING, MISSION SPOKESMAN KAPLAN
HAD FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. GEORGIA REPRESENTATIVE HOWARD CALLAWAY, MEMBER HOUSE ARMED
FORCES COMMITTEE, LEAVING TOMORROW MORNING, AVAILABLE AT AIRPORT
VIP LOUNGE FOR STATEMENT.
2. DEPUTY AMB JOHNSON SAW FORMER ARMY SECT STEVENS AND SWISS
CONSUL TODAY.

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 573A C O N F I D E N T I A L

HANOI RADIO INTERNATIONAL SERVICE 1705 GMT JUNE 9 BROADCAST
FOLLOWING STATEMENT FROM NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT ON PRESIDENT
JOHNSON'S REMARKS ON US TROOPS TAKING PART IN BATTLE HERE:
QUOTE IF USG GIVES SELF RIGHT ORDER US TROOPS TAKE PART IN FIGHTING IN
SVN, NLF ALSO GIVES SELF RIGHT CALL WHEN NECESSARY FOR VOLUNTEERS FROM ARM
ES II
OF NVN AND FRIENDLY COUNTRIES TO GO SOUTH TO OPPOSE US AGGRESSION
END QUOTE.

SPOKESMAN REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS THAT NLF FIRST CLAIMED RIGHT TO
TO CALL FOR "VOLUNTEERS" ON MARCH 22 BUT REFERRED THEM TO
"CHILDREN OF SVN REGROUPED TO NORTH" WITH NO MENTION OF
NVN ARMY. THIS WAS FIRST PUBLIC ADMISSION THAT PAVN BEING ASKED
TO SUPPLY "VOLUNTEERS".

KAPLAN ALSO READ TEXT OF WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT ON US TROOP

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COMMITMENT IN SVN.

MCV REP REPORTED THAT LARGE VIET CONG FORCE ATTACKED DONG XOAI DISTRICT TOWN, DON LUAN DISTRICT AND NEARBY SPECIAL FORCES CAMP THIS MORNING BEGINNING AT 0200 HOURS. TOWN IS LOCATED ABOUT 60 MILES NORTH OF SAIGON. DETAILS OF ATTACK BEING FILED USINFO CHANNEL.

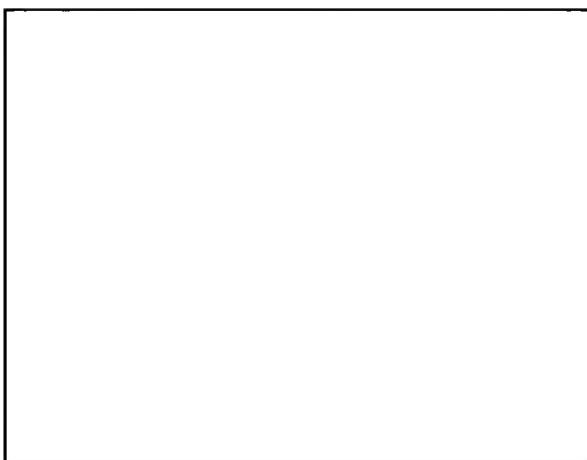
MCV REP SAID HEAVY FIGHTING IS CONTINUING. IN RESPONSE QUESTION, MACV REP SAID THAT, AS FAR AS MACV KNOWS, SPECIAL FORCES CAMP HAS BEEN OVERRUN. MACV REP ESTIMATED THAT VC FORCE CONSISTED

PAGE 3 RUMJIR 573A CONFIDENTIAL
F THREE BATTALIONS TOTALLING 1500 RPT 1500 MEN OR MORE.

■ RESPON QUESTION, MACV REP SAID THAT VC STILL CONTROL MOST OF BATTLE AREA.

OHNSON

BT



STAT